SUICIDE-ITS INCREASE. MR. GOLDWIN AMITH'S HISTORICAL. REVIEW OF REIF-DESTRICTION.

He Finds the Principal Casse to fie the Marriage as an Antidote to Saicide. Suleide-How the Art Has Been Hegarded by Men of Action and Philosophers in All Ages.

Statistics just published show that suicide is It might be hastily interred that the world is becoming less happy. But the inference would be unfounded. Rather It. might be said that the means of enloyment baving been greatly increased and the standard generally raised, deprivation is more felt and more productive of despair The leading cause, however, probably is sensibility intensified by civilization. It seems to he an admitted fact that the rate of suicide increases with national education; not that national education produces suicide, but it protices sensibility. Some investigators tell us spicide is common also among savages.

is, the cause may be assumed to be very different from that which operates among the civilized. The savage yields without reflection to any impulse, like the horse in the New Forest, which, maddened by the sting of the forest fly, dashes out its life against a tree.

It does not appear from the classification that any particular calling is especially sufcidal unless it be that of the soldier. It would have been easy to understand why a British or Prussian soldier of former days, subjected to an iron discipline, deprived of every com fort in life and mercilessly flogged or caned. should be ready to bolt through the only door of escape, especially if he had been like many of Frederick's soldiers, crimped, or, like many of those in the British army, decoyed when he was drunk by a recruiting sergeant into a service which in those days was for life. But under the present military system it is difficult to see why soldiers should be given to suicide.

Of the races one is rather surprised at first to be told the Teutonic, in which you would have expected most fortitude, are more sulcidal than the Celtic, in which you would have expected less. The gloom of the northern climate may be partly the cause, but it probably may be said also that the deeper character is the more melancholic. The Roman Catholic Celt in Ireland will hear with com-Saxon Presbyterians of Ulster is double that among the Ir sh of his own race and religion

One is rather surprised also to learn that May. June and July are the suicidal months. It might have been supposed rather that they were the season of cheerfulness and hope. The explanation given is that with revival of vitality all the feelings and impressions become more rest. This is the season when a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love and when | ners' juries took refuge in verdicts of temperhaps disappointments in fove are common.

Marriage, it appears, is an antidote to suicide which on the other hand prevails among the spite of all distillusionment, evenness of temper and determination to make the best of the union would render them, yet happier than a lonely life. The tendency to domestic strife and divorce would naturally prevail most among the rich and tile, who have no daily need of each other's help and are tempted to fill the vacancy in their lives with irregular love.

That suicide would be far less common amone women than among men statistics were hardly well as less resolute than men. They are Spanish women, however, it seems there is a special prevalence of suicide, of which the intensity of Spanish passion is no doubt the cause. It is rather disappointing to be told that neither drunkenness nor sexual immorality is among the principal direct causes of suicide. Their suicidal effect seems to be felt more by the children of the sinners than by the sinners

we should probably find that the variety was infinite. Numberless are the things which may make a man, especially if his liver is out of order, fancy that life is not worth living. Mere satlety. It appears, may sometimes have a fatal effect. The mysterious death of the wicked Lord Lytte ton, supernaturally predicted, seems to have been merely a case of suicide committed by a sated voluptuary and masked by a story which he told his friends of an apparition warning him that he was about to die. writer's notice a case has occurred of suicide committed by a wealthy sybarite without assignable cause unless it were weariness of life. brought to a crisis perhaps by disorder of the liver owing to extreme sultriness of the weather. On the other hand the writer has known a case where the character of the man was excellent and the only assignable motive was the prospeet of having an office thrust upon him and being thus compelled to play a public part. The temperament, perhaps, was something like that of Cowper, though there was not, as in the case of Cowper, insane delusion.

We can hardly reckon among suicides cases of euthanisia, as it is called, that is of the mere shortening of the pains of death. There seems to be no good reason why, when death is certain. when moral and intellectual life is practically extinct and nothing is left but the capacity of pain, a man should undergo lingering tortures instead of being allowed to the relief of all about him as well as his own to depart in peace. If also sent the remedy. If it is urged that you ought to wait till God calls you, you may reply that a mortal disease is the call of God. The danger of license, however, is obvious, at least without strict medical regulation, which it would be very difficult to provide. It seems hard that science should be employed, as so often it must be, in keeping a man stretched on the rack, and it is sometimes an unhappy privilege of wealth to have its tortures thus skilfully prolonged when poverty would be allowed to die. Yet is, no doubt, the duty of the physician to fight death to the last. As a matter of fact, the merciful use of anodynes, which no law of the profession forbids, is almost equivalent to euthanasia. Sir Thomas More, a most devout man.

makes euthanasia lawful in his Utopia. Of self-destruction from insanity or lesion of the brain it is needless to speak. This is to all intents and purposes natural death.

Some experts maintain that all cases of sulcide are cases of insanity; but if you ask them what they mean by insanity, they will say tendency to suicide: just as in the case of murder, when they are called in support of a defence on the ground of insanity the only account of insanity

which they can give is tendency to murder. Insomnia appears to be on the increase, chatever may be the cause, whether anything In our diet or in the general restlessness of an age, in which nobody except the old Turk seems to keep the tradition of repose. Sufferers from this malady might be naturally tempted to take refuge in the last long sleep. Only they should remember when the temptation besets them that in sleep we continue to exist, and ! by the French Revolution over the gates of

fore, even on the atheistic hypothesis, false. It does not appear that there is any philocophic classification of the modes of suicide chosen by different persons. Women naturally prefer poison to the more violent methods of self-destruction. There have been several cases lately of women who, being unable to get Prussic acid or laudanum at the druggist's. have poisoned themselves with paris green or carbolic acid, thereby putting themselves

to a death of torture.

The morality of the question is perhaps settled if the term "self-murder" were literally correct. But a map, it would seem, can no more commit murder on himself than he can steal his own goods or force his own signature. Apparently, as against other men, he is master of his own life. If he has a wife and family dependent on him, or will in any way injure others by his departure, self-destruction is

milty in maintaining that it is anything worse than a fatal act of folly. There is no use in telling misery that it is not miserable, or denying that as some men are it would be better for them not to be. What can be said in all cases is that there are possibilities in the future, and that at any fate life will soon come to a

natural end. Napoleon condemned suicide, saying that was a heedless renunciation of the chances of the future. "A soldier," was his characteristic phrase, "who committed suicide was a When his great triend Duror was mortally wounded and wished to terminate his agony Napoleon would not let him and said he must bear it to the end. Nevertheless, Napoleon himself; aiways carried about the means of suicide in the shape of a little phial of potson hung round his neck, and at Fontalnebleau, in his despair, he attempted to put an end to himself, but the poison, probably from long keeping, had jost its efficacy and after

suffering agonies he survived It seems that there really have been such things as suicide clubs, the source of which probably was ennui combined with the ex-citement of a sort of desperate gambling and an imaginary shifting of responsibility for self-destruction

There is nothing either in the Old or the New Testament expressly forbidding suicide, though there is a passage condemning it in Josephus. But the cases of suicide, that of Saul, who, after falling away from God and having recourse to the witch of Endor, has himself killed in despair at defeat; that of Alaitophel, who hangs bimself on the miscarriage f his wicked policy; and that of Judas, who hangs himself from remorse, are all of them shocking and deterrent. To the Jew this life was all, and his temperament was optimistic: he was little disposed, therefore, to self-destruction. The Jews, besieged by anti-Se mites in the Castle of York in the time of Richard I, slay themselves after slaying their wives and children to avoid falling into the hands of their enemies. Similar acts of desperation on the part of the Jews marked their war with the Romans These are not sulcides In the Koran there is a cursory prohibition of suicide, which, if the cause of suicide is sensi bility, might be deemed superfluous for the

Turk. Though there is nothing in the New Testament forbidding suicide, the Church vehemently forbade it, some of the fathers even placency that the rate of suicide among the saying in their exaggerated rhetoric that it was worse than murder. By the Church, therefore, though not by the Bible, Shakespeare is borne out when he says that the Almights has fixed his canon against self-slaughter. Following in the track of the Church, law rested suicide as a high crime, doubly heinous nasmuch as it interfered with the prerogative of God and robbed the King of a subject. lively, those which lead to suicide among the As it could not punish the offender, it vented its wrath upon his body and his goods. Coro-

porary insanity.

Plate in the "Laws" has a strong passage against suicide. "What shall he suffer who divorced. The fact is that nine marriages out | slays him who of all men, as they say, is his of ten are happy; not so happy perhaps as, in | own best friend? I mean the suicide, who deprives himself by violence of his appointed share of life, not because the law of the State requires him, nor yet under the compulsion of some painful and inevitable misfortune which has come upon him, nor because he has had to suffer from irremediable and intolerable shame, but who from sloth or want of manliness imposes upon himself an unjust penalty. For him, what ceremonies there are to be of purification and burial God knows. needed to assure us. Women are more patient | and about these the next of kin should inquire of the interpreters and of the laws thereto also less exposed to the stress of life. Among relating, and do according to their injunctions. They who meet their death in this way shall be buried alone, and none shall be laid at their side, they shall be buried in gloriously in the borders of the twelve portions of the land, in such places as are uncultivated and nameless, and no column or inscription shall mark the place of their interment." (Legg. IX. 873) This was probably the Greek mor-If we could scrutinize the causes of sulcide allty, highly pitched: though we have illustrious cases of suicide in Themistocles and Demosthenes, we might almost add Hannibal, for although a Carthaginian, he was within

the range of Greek ideas. In allowing as an excuse irremediable and intolerable shame, Plato has perhaps named the one thing which may palliate real suicide, especially in the case of any one who has stood high as a man of honor. A deadly plot against his reputation was the real cause of Castlereagh's suicide, though his nerve may have been shaken by ill health; in the case of Clive, perhaps popular hatred, ill-deserved, mingled with the tortures of disease; but attempts on his life when a youth had shown that his temperament was suicidal.

The morality of republican Rome appears to have condemned any but heroic suicide. such as that of Lucretia or Curtius. Virgil puts the spirits of the suicides into a melancholy abode saving that they would now gladly return to a life even of poverty and toil. The State was not to be deprived of a citizen, the soldier was not to desert his post. But with the Empire and the Stoic philosophy, which was a standing revolt of the model man against the tyranny and vices of the Empire, suicide became the support and the consolation of a high circle. The first grand instance was Cato, who, curiously enough, is treated as a hero by both the two courtfer poets of the Augustan

age, Horace and Virgil. "You will find," says Seneca, "even professors Providence has sent the pain, Providence has of philosophy who deny the lawfulness of sufcide and maintain that we are bound to wait for the end decreed by nature. Those who say this do not see that they are shutting the door of liberty. Nothing better has eternal law done than in giving one entrance into life but many exits. Am I to await the cruelty of disease or man when I can cut short my torments? This is our only reason for not complaining of life, that it constrains no one. Humanity is fortunate in that no man, save through his own fault, is wretched. You are content, live. You are not content: you may return whence you came" (Ep. LXX., 14.) It is surely difficult to contend, in face of such language as this, that the Stoic philosophy discouraged suicide, though it might and did

condemn hasty and cowardly resort to it. Epictetus certainly counsels patient waiting for the signal of release and not departing without a reason; but he does not condemi suicide The objects of Imperial displeasure were

cometimes commanded to commit suicide, and if they obeyed they partly escaped the confiscation of goods which would have followed execution. This, of course, was not real suicide. A very striking thing is the description in

Suctonius, who if he had chosen to deal with history instead of cossip might have been an eminent writer, of the suicide of Nero. The devosed tyrant and monster flee from flome n disguise to the villa of one of his freedmen. On the road he is recognized, in spite of his disguise, by a soldier of the Prætorian Guard. who salutes him. As the passes the camp he from it we awake refreshed, but from death | hears the soldlery shouting for his successor there is no awakening. The inscription placed | Slipped into the villa by a back way, he holds an agonized debate between life and death. semeteries, "Here is Eternal Sleep," was, there- | giving instruction for his burial, and ever and anon crying: "What an artist dies in me" Reing told that if he were caught alive he would be scourged to death, he produces two daggers, but puts them up again. He calls on Sporus, a creature of his vices, to raise the funeral wall; prays that somebody would set him the example of dying: tries to awaken his resolution by self-reproach. At last he hears the noise of horsemen approaching to arrest him. Then, with the assistance of an attendant, he drives the dagger into his throat. Be-

fore he is dead the Centurion breaks in and very easily settled. It would be easily | tries to stanch Nero's wound with his cloak, pretending that he had come to help him. Nero answers: "It is too late," and "Is this your loyalty". So saying, he expires, "his eyes," says the writer, "protruding and coming rigid, so as to strike the beholders with

Futhanasia, or suicide to cut short the pains of death in the case of an incurable disease, manifestly a crime. Otherwise there is diffi- was a regular practice among the Romans

under the Empire, and was recognised, as was milete from more weariness of life or from shame, by the civil law. We have more than one case of it in Pliny, nor does it seem that the practice was by any means, as Merivale seems

to think, peculiar to voluptuaries Montaigne plays with the subject in his usus fashion, opening with a plous submission to the divine judgment which is as playful as the rest. He leaves the conclusion, as is his wont, in suspense, but in his pleading for the negative he says that "contempt of life is ridiculous, since this life is all we have and that to fly to death for exemption from the evils of exlatence must be fully, since the peace which

we seek we shall not enjoy. Of Voltairs one does not expect a very definite and serious judgment on the moral question; but in "Candide" he makes one of the characters say that "the love of life is one our most fatal inclinations, inasmuch as nothing can be more foolish than to wish to be aiways bearing a burden which one wishes always to east off abhorring existence and cleaving to it cherishing the serpent which devours us till he has eaten out our heart." Rousseau allows suicide only as an escape from the tortures of incurable disease. Otherwise, he says, it is a robbery of the human race, to which all its members owe a duty. He bids every one who is tempted to suicide, say to himself, "Let me do one good action before I die." He of course does not attempt to show how society, when robbed of its citi-

zen, is to punish the robber. Schopenhauer, if he were to be held to the logical inference from his theory, might be suid to have preached universal suicide as the means of putting an end to the worst of all possible worlds. But he managed to provide himself with a philosophic excuse for enduring what appears to have been a very comfortable life. e religious question, as one between man and his Maker and one dependent on the imnortality of the soul, must be said to be in the same state of doubt and suspense as other elizious que-tions in this age of theological perplexity and ecclesiastical dissolution. GOLDWIN SMITH

GERMAN TRADE TACTICS.

A System That Makes Their Competition Hard to Meet in South America.

The recent cable despatch from THE SUN'S London correspondent in which the great opportunity for the extension of American trade was pointed out attracted a great deal of attention in the big downtown commercial houses. A man connected with the management of one of the largest manufacturing concerns in America was especially interested in the statement that England was, or soon would be, lagging behind in the race for commercial supremacy and that Germany was our only dangerous competitor. The manager of the concern's London office was present when THE SUN's cable desputch was read and he as well as the others present agreed that the suggestions to American manufacturers which it contained were well worthy of serious attention.

"But if we are to have a hot competition with the Germans." said the head of the New York house "we must in many particulars do as the Germans do: we must imitate their methods. The system on which they conduct heir commercial campaigns is wonderful. When they decide to invade a territory it is generally the result of serious conference of number of the leading manufacturers. They plan their line of attack as a General would plan They bring all their own forces to bear and back of them is the Government aid-all converging simultaneously to the ac-

"Take, for instance, the South American countries. What happens to our American salesman when he goes there to sell his goods? Well, in the first place, if he knows his business he don't go there. But suppose he does go. Being a bright and active man he gets about among the merchants and sells a number of bills of goods. Then, of course, he looks about him for a bank to finance his orders. He comes to a big, fine, solid one and goes in. The banker hears his proposition, and while he is stating the banking gentleman-a German, for it is always a German bank-is making a careful scrutiny of the orders which the salesman, of course, has shown him. After he has studied them enough and made mental memoranda of all they contain that he wants to know-why, then he is very sorry, very sorry indeed, but really the bank is so situated that it cannot undertake to transact the business. And by the time the salesman has got out of doors a messenger is off to representatives of German houses with full information about the orders —who gave them, their general tenor and all about them.

And all this is because when German man-

houses with full information about the orders—who gave them, their general tenor and all about them.

"And all this is because when German manufacturers start in to sedig ods in a country they chip in to start a bank there also. The bank and the salesmen set there at the same time. And just as soon as the trade is a little established along comes the German Government reserves in the shape of a subsidized German steamship line to the port. What earthly chance have we got in the long run competing with a system like that? As the bove say, we simply are not in it. Our salesman may try another bank, and that probably will be Eurilsh. If his orders are not conflicting with English trade he may get accommodation, but probably he won't.

"So be sends his orders heme and the home firm turns them down. There is no security, the time is too long and they don't know anything about the purchasing firms. It is true that in South America there is beginning to be a change, for local native banks are staring up and the are only too gial to finance orders of an American or any other foreign salesman, purely as a matter of local pride and to compete with the exotic banks all around them. Of course what we want is subsidized steamship lines. Our freight rates now use all made in London and they are what London chooses to make them. When we get steamship lines of our own and at the same time put something of the German system and concentration of effort into our trade expansion then we may be able to compete on something like equal terms. Until we do that we are handicasned at every turn.

"And then there is another thing. Our big houses are managed often too arbitrarily by presidents and vice-presidents who have never open anywhere themselves and as a natural consequence know a great deal more than others connected with the concern who have been everywhere and know what they know from the observation and study of existing facts as they are send not from theorising and directors' roon debating societies. They say we Americans are

EDMUND YATES SLANDERED. His Literary Partnership With Mrs. Hoey

LONDON, Nov 10 -Mr. William Tinaley's "Random Recollections of a Publisher," of which an account appeared in THE SUN of Oct. 30, has evoked several contradictions of the passage referring to the alleged literary partnership of the late Mr. Edmund Yates and Mrs. Cashel Hoey. Mr. Edmund Smedley Yules has written to the Westminster Gazette pointing out that Mr. Tinsley's story is entirely uncorroborated and that he himself was ign rant that his father had any such partnership He adds that he firmly believes that the slander circulated by Mr. Tinsley is wholly false and denounces it as a cowardly attack on a dead man's memory. The writer of the literary notes in the Pall Mall Gazette also points ou that if Mrs. Hoev was "ghost" for Mr. Yates, a great many people must have been in the know-including Charles Dickens-if it was she who wrote "Black Sheep." The same writer gives a singular instance of Mr. Tinsley recollecting himself into a prominence to which he

NANSEN'S ARCTIC WORK.

THE SCIENTIFIC RESULTS OF HIS RX-PROTTION PUBLISHED. Abundant Life in North Pole Waters Food Drifting From the East to Minute Animals

From the West - Tropical Species Found in the North Birds and Fores. The scientific results of Dr. Nansen's Arctic expedition were published in London some months ago. The volume, a large quarto containing five memoirs, is an important contribution to our exact knowledge of the Arctic regions. Prof. Edward E. Prince, the eminent biologist of Canada and Deminion commissioner of Fisheries, has just written en able review of the volume which appears in the Ottawa Naturalist. The following account some of the most interesting results of Namsen's researches is condensed from Prof. Prince's article. These results prove the accuracy of Lord Lister's statement in the Royal

emarkable than the scientific element in Nansen's expedition. When Nansen was in this country three years ago he said he had accumulated such a mass of observations, physical, meteorological, geological and biological that some years would be required to work them into treatises. It would take Prof. Sars, his brother-in-law. bout three years to study the crustaces alone.

Geographical Society that "nothing is more

Prof. Sars's memoir contains some very unexpected information. Thus we learn that floating surface animals of minute size are abundant even in the most northerly polar waters, though almost perpetually covered by a layer of ice. Mr. Tyrrell has told us that there are lakes in the northern barren grounds sheeted over with thick ice at midsummet yet abounding in whitefish; but the plenitude f minute crustaceans in the ley surface waters of the Arctic is even more surprising. Most of them are Copepeds, an order of almost microscopic crustaceans, of which the common fresh water mite, Cyclops, is a familiar example. They form the staple food of young fishes. The number of species in such cold seas is extraordinary and they often discolor the sea surface by their multitude. Dr. Sars says the largest catches by Nansen were not made at the surface but at a depth of 250 to 300 yards, indicating that the ice makes the uppermost strata too cold for even these hardy members of the grab and shrimp class

Dr. Nansen's net towing in the long lanes f water between the ridges of hummock ice revealed rich pelagio life at apparently all seasons. British, German, Norse and American investigators have found that typical surface animals constantly descend, many species frequenting the basal waters twenty fifty fathoms deep: but the midwater cone of life described by Dr. Sars between the sur face and the bottom is a new fact of interest Heretofore little life has been found in the middle ocean depths. Naturalists anticipated that there might be a rich fauna on the floor of the artic seas. The reverse appears to be the case. The deep sea soundings gave every indication of a scanty abyssmal fauna one bottle in Dr. Nansen's collection contained true bottom-living animals

The most considerable depths, 1,300 to 1,900 latitude. Near the Siberian coast and up to the seventy-ninth parallel the water rarely exceeds ninety fathoms, but a little south of the latitude named the shallows began to disappear, deeper soundings were recorded and the depth increased with amazing suddeness. thus overthrowing altogether the preconceived conception of a north polar sea. deed the great depths appear to be a continuation of the North Atlantic channel which extends between Spitzbergen and Greenland.

One peculiar shrimp-like creature, an amphipod, was found clinging to the sounding line when hauled up from a depth of 1,100 fathoms. Its eyes were very rudimentaryindeed it was almost blind-and is every evidence that in its aby smal habitat no light strayed down from the surface of the no light strayed down from the surface of the waters. The deep-sea fauna may, however, be more varied than Nansen's fragmentery investigation appears to indicate. Perhaps the most remarkable facts to the minds of naturalists have been the discovery in polar waters of copepods, which are identical with, or closely allied to, species hitherto found in tropical waters and in some cases not nearer than 12,000 miles.

tropical waters and in solutions than 12,000 miles.

Contrary to all previous hydrographical experience in the extreme north, the temperature was found by Nansen to rise as the thermometer descends in the water to greater depths, thus showing that the warmer currents rermeate and influence the conditions which prevail in the very heart of the ice world.

thermometer descends in the water to greater depths, thus showing that the warmer currents, thus showing that the warmer currents which prevail in the very heart of the lee world. Nansen explains this deeper warmer current as the last remnants of the Gulf Stream spending lisely in these frigid zones.

Thus he argues that an abundant floating funna has been introduced from the west, while the food supplies to support this vast marine population come from the west, while the food supplies to support this vast marine population come from the east. "I think the Siberian current is of great importance," says Dr. Sars, "in conveying a constant supply of nourishment to the pelazic animals of the north polar basin. This nourishment consists of microscopic alge, chiefy distons which are found to abound in the superficial polar water of the Siberian Sea, though gradually diminishing in quantity westward, apparently ewing to their being largely fed upon by various pelagic animals. Indeed, without such a constant conveyance of nourishing matter there could be no such rich animal life in the polar sea.

The dark bands and discolorations exhibited by lee in northern waters are mainly due to these lowly plants (distoms). Though mingled at times with mineral dust, probably volcanic, the other, brownish-red or dull green this seen on the sides and margins of large bergs, floes and even pan ice are found to be due to these lowly plants (distoms). Though mingled at times with mineral dust, probably volcanic, the other, brownish-red or dull green this seen on the sides and margins of large bergs, floes and even pan ice are found to be due to these lowly plants (distoms). Though mingled at times with mineral dust, probably volcanic, the other, brownish-red or dull green this seen on the sides and margins of large bergs, floes and even pan ice are found to be due to these owners and the surface of the plant from the floet of the same of the plants of

carried from one centre to remote and isolated areas and have left us representatives in the intervening waters.

Dr. Nansen and Dr. Collett write of the birds observed during the expedition. Between \$1 and \$3 degrees North latitude there is an abundance of bird life. Oddly enough young birds seem to prevail in this inhospitable region. Vast numbers of certain species were noticed, including the little auk, the ringed ployer, the ivery gull and one specimen of Sabine's gull. On May 13, 1894, when the Fram was moving toward the most northerly point in her drift through the ice, a guil was noticed, and others were seen occasionally until Aug. 23, but after the lanes between the hummocks and the channels around the ship began to freeze, about the end of Angust, no more birds were seen for over eight months. Readys of "Farthest North" will remember Nansen's reference to the beautiful and rare Ross's gull, or the rowate gull, and for the first time a fully detailed description of the species is now published with exquisitely tinted illustrative plates. In the waters around Hirtenland, four gia fer-capted islands in 3 degrees 33 minutes, North latitude and 63 degrees East longitude, numbers of that scarce and weigh bird appeared. Its beautiful rosecoiored breast, wedge shaped tail, and airy flight, make it. a Nansen tells us, "the most heautiful of all the animal forms of the frozen regions."

beautiful of all U.e enimal forms of the frozen revious."

Foxes were found by Nansen and Johansen further north than any other air breathing animals. This was in sa degrees north latitud on April 25, 1895, very little south of their most northerly point. Their astonishment may be imagined when they observed the footprints of two foxes. These foxes probably subsist on small constaces, which they must dip out the shallow watery lanes between the rugged ice ridges. They shot a large bearded seal at \$2 degrees north latitude and a little further south killed three polar bears. It appears as though animal life (so far as quadrupeds and birds are concerned) wholly geases in the extreme North, and over the vast, ice fields no moving thing is visible. Of the polar waters, on the other hand, it may be affirmed that they everywhere

abound in minute examples of animal organ-isms, some of which have been hitherto pro-nounced by naturalists to be Mediterranean

whenced by paturalists to be Mediterranean even equatorial species. It is appearent that warm and cold urrents affect and modify submarine life as to combicate very much the problems with which e paiacontologist deals. As the late Drurpenter long ago pointed out. Arctic shells we been found as far south as Giraitar, clear proof that the glarial temperature ists there beneath the waves without making by difference in the terrestrial climate. Versus as find tropical species in Arctic waters, we late Su. W. Illian Dawson once wrote to 197. ripret, especially the evidences of glacial lions in periods when such conditions not regarded as evisting. I am quite fed, wrote Sir William, to accept the islon that glacial heds may have been d in any latitude and at any geological

ON THE PRONTIERS OF INDIA. Measures to Meet the Effects of Renewed Rus-

sian Activity in Asia. The British Indian Government, after some deliberation, has decided to meet the new conditions that are arising all along the frontiers of India by an increased expenditure for milltary purposes, principally in artillery, which, it is authoritatively stated, \$10,000,000 will be spent. The rearmament of the native army is proceeding as fast as magazine rifles arrive from England, the new weapons being issued to the British troops, whose old rifles, after careful examination, are transferred to the native regiments. The expense of the new armament: will not, it is said, add to the Indian budget, but will be met with the money saved by the action of the Imperial Government in paying the cost of the troops taken from In-

dia for service in South Africa and China For some time past the condition of things the northwest frontier of India has been reported to be unsatisfactory, raids by the tribesmen on the frontier outposts becoming creasingly frequent, with loss of life and ooting of magazines and guardhouses for guns and ammunition. The latest raids have determined the Indian Government to institute a blockade of the territory inhabited by the offending tribesmen in order to cut their flocks off from their grazing lands. Should this not produce the desired result sterner measures will be adopted, and a punitive expedition similar to that sent into the Tirah untry three years ago will be despatched to occupy the country The Amir of Afghanistan, in order to guard

he neutrality of his territory, has sent one of his (enerals, Mohammed Ali Khan, to select a suitable site for a cantonment on the frontier watch the operations. He is also said to to have caused a new book in Persian on the subject of "The Preaching Laws of Islam," to be issued from the Kabul Press, and copies o be distributed among the preaching staff of mullahs. A portion of the work is devoted to political affairs and the Amir's relations with Russia and the British Government. Meanwhile occurrences have taken place in Thib t, arising out of the Chinese complications, that have caused the Indian Government to hasten the repairs to the Darjeeling railway. which was so badly damaged by earthquake and floods, with the intention of prolongathoms, were found north of 79 degrees north | ing it into Sikkim toward the Thibetan frontier. dovements are reported from Thibet which are regarded as hostile to British interests in Asia, and an envoy has been sent by the balai Lama from I hassa to Russia, with the object, so it is stated in St. Petersburg, of seeking Russian protection.

blect, so it is stated in St. Petersburg, or seeking Russian protection.

Comparatively easy communication now xists between Linassa and Kashgar in thisese Turkestan, where the Russian Government has an important dirlomatic agency presided over by M. Petersburg, with the rank of consul-General and an escort of eighty Cosancks commanded by two officers. He keeps in considerable state and discenses money freely, which is in contrast with the British agent, whose establishment is humble and expenditure limited. Kashgar is connected by telegraph with St. Petersburg through Urumtsi, a Chinese military station in northtelegraph with St. Petersburg through midst, a Chinese military station in north-tern Monzola; and there is an all-the-year-nd rostal service between Kashgar and in Ferzhana, and Fort Narin, a Russian post in Bussian Turkestan. All communitions between the British Covernment and agent have to pass through the Pussian t Office and telegraph, excert when an asional explorer comes up from India augh Kashnir or some other route. Ussian supremney is gradually asserting if communically, financially and rolitically islan traders, are tressing south by the

t the English goods that at one time filled e bazaars. The Russo, three Panking Company has recordly established a branch at ishear to facilitate trade, and the Chinese total takes no inventant sten even in the cerual adjustration of his province with t consulting the Russian representative.

out first consulting the Russian representative. A few Hindu traders and rootev lenders are still to be found in Kashgar, but their business is radicive leaving them.

In order to bring Kashgar more completely under Russian influence. M Petrovski is now working to have the Russian custom house on the feathfar at Irtishkam removed to Kashgar to facilitate Russian trade operations, and it was believed he would succeed. An Finglish writer commenting on this move observes that it was too in the feathfar in this way that Polyham was gradually absorbed. Lastly, in the event of troubles calling for the display of railitary force, Russia has already large bodies of troops within eight days march of Rashgar. The Reitsh Government is endeavoring to stablish a countermoise to this prenenderence of Pusela by ancouraging the construction of electric troiler lives in Kashmir, but the prohability is that before they can be of any strategic value, the Bussian outnosts will have been established on the watershed between the British and nominally Chinese territory. As to the cut-come of the Thibeton mission to Bussia nothing is yet known but its having been sent is synntamatic of the unrest prevailing all over Asia at the present moment.

VERMONT'S GROWTH. An Increase in Population Shown by the Cen-

aus This Year. By the Pederal census of 1870 the total popu-

lation of Vermont was 330,551. Between 1870 and 1850 there was a vast increase of American manufacturing interests and a proportionately large addition to the population of five of the six New England States, Vermont being the exception. Between 1880 and 1890 also, population, except Vermont, which showed an almost insignificant gain, the figures for 1800, 332,422. In ten years the population of Vermont increased less than 200.

The explanation of this lack of growth is be found in the fact that many of the farming

The explanation of this lack of growth is to be found in the fact that many of the farming districts of Vermont have long since ceased to be profitable for farming. There have been many abandoned farm lands and in some many abandoned farm lands and in some many of the State enteration either to the West or New York. Into Vermont a State was strictly enforced, there has been little foreign immigration, the total number of German-Americans inhabitants, for instance, being, by the census of ten years ago, only \$77, a smaller number than in any other State and about half the number in neighboring New Harsesbire.

It has been generally expected by many persons unfamiliar with conditions in the Green Mountain State, that continued operation of causes which have left the population of the State almost stationary for twenty-five years would prevent any increase in this cear's census. Contrary to expectations, the census shows distinct gains. The total population of the State is seen to be \$13.641, a gain of 11.000 compared with 1890. The three counties which includes the capital city of Montpeller, Grand Island, which is made up of Islands in Lake Champlain, and Cluttenden, which includes Burlington with a population of 18,000 against 1,000 ten years ago. Rutland, the second city of the State, shows a decrease. It has 270 fewer inhabitants than it had ten years ago, notwithstanding its prominence as the city having the largest marble quarries in New England. Washington county has gained 24 per cent in public line in the years, Grand Island is and Chittenden, 12. respulation in ten years, Grand Island 16 and Chittenden 12. The only county which has fallen off is Essex in what is known as the pocket, the extreme north-western geographical division of Vermont having as its eastern and southern boundaries the State of New Hampshire and as its northern boundary the Canada border. This county has fallen behind, less through emigration to other States than to other parts of Vermont.

TOLD BY THE OLD CINCUA MAY The Great Glant In a Novel Contest With Local Champion.

'As I have told you before " said the freus man, "the old man, the grand bess o all the show, was forever on the lookout, wher ever we went, for a chance to enter our giant. the greatest of all giants, in some sort of petitive exhibition, in which the stupendous proportions and the enormous expectites of this truly colossal specimen of the genus homo would be emphasized by contrasting him in some manner with men of ordinary stature. "But it kept the old man busy finding things for the glant to do, because we didn't like to denny interrupted in the course of her song repeat too much. We discovered new things, stared inquiringly at the stage manager all the time, if we could; and, when we could, things that were for some reason or other peculiarly of local interest. Of course the old man always read with the greatest care the local newspapers of the towns to which the show was coming. He got no end of hints from them, and one day be says to me in the office of a hotel where we were sitting, handing me over a newspaper as he spoke

'Cephas, what do you think of that? was a challenge to a ple-eating contest issued | sing it as well as I can by a local champion named S. Flutarch von Boozington, which I thought then, and I've old man greatly; it was something new and different and unusual, a thing in which our was a challenge to all comers there was in it or three neighboring counties, who would be sure to come with crowds of friends to spread the fame of the giant and incidentally of the show. So the old man went around right away and saw Mr. von Boozington, entered his unknown and put up the money for him for the match to come off on the following day, the day of the circus.

"Ten o'clock in the morning was the hour set, and I suppose we might safely say that none of the contestants had eaten breakfast that day; they would break their fast on pie. There were five of them there, altogether, when we came up: the local champion. Von Boozington, three men from other places, and one other three men from other places, and one other man besides Von Boozington from the local town. They were to eat from a long wooden table like a sort of a pionic table, that they'd got set up in an open lot right next to the circus lot. They had pies stacked up in six piles, for the six contestants; and the five were all there, with the starter, scorers, and time-keeper and judge, and everything all ready, waiting only for the unknown entry from the circus, but they didn't have to wait long for him. The old man brought him over on time to the minute.

to the minute

You might have thought that when the others saw what sort of man the unknown was they'd all have skipped, but they didn't, only one man gave up, that was the other local man; but Yon Boozington and the three visitors stayed in Some of them, perhaps, because they liked to be seen in grand company, some because they thought to themselves that the battle was not always to the strong, nor the race to the swift—there was always a chance

to be a very nice sort of a chap, and an able man too, in spite of his odd name, figured these chances out, and really saw a possibility of winning as against the giant. You see the giant had a much longer distance to reach for his pies, down to the table—all the contestants ate standing—and then a much longer distance to carry them up to his mouth, than the others had, all this taking time. Not much, to be sure, but some, and no end of things might happen besides. So Von Boozington went in with an actual hope to win.

"But my sakes: there never was a minute when Von Booz or any of the rest of them had the remotest sort of a chance to win. The giant made no mistake, and he did not torget. He was a polite man, the giant, and he let the others, all four of them, get ahead of him at first. They had one feature in this match that I never saw in a pie-ceating match before or since. Not one in ten of the people that wanted to see it could get near enough to see it actually. So they had a sort of an announcer, who called off at short intervals the number of minutes elapsed, and the number of pies eaten so far by each contestant. And at a short time after the match opened the local champion Von Boozington was well ahead, with the giant next, and the others scattering. Af the next call the giant had closed up some, but Von Booz was still the leader, and the people cheered widily; but gracious me! Why, the giant could eat, you know, more pies than all of them put together, and this you understand without any hurrying, or anything of that sort, but just in his common regular orderly method of eating. The next call in fact showed him pies ahead, and he won in a nibble. "Then the old man did what he always did in a case of this kind, he returned the stakes; betting on a sure thing, and the old get out of the betting on a sure thing, and the old get out of the local case of the stand and the local case of this kind, he returned the stakes; when Yon Boox or any of the rest of them had the remotes sort of a chance to win the remotes sort of a chance to win the grant made no mistake, and he did not torset, others, all four of thems, set shead of hin at first. They laid one feature in this match to the country of the sort of the country of the cou

turning up on the river bottom. The people on Waternatch go out and catch dozens in a day with their hands. Occasionally a keg of beer doctored with knockout drops is spilled. After the first effects of the drug have been slept of the salimon become wiid. They skylark in the water, leap into the air and turn double schereaults and pin wheels before striking water.

A few years are it was customary to spill whiskey and hard stuff into the sewers and rivers. Fish became used to intexication them. They enjoyed it. Being always in cool water, and possessing little or no brain no headaches followed their libations. When the law was passed obliging the Sheriffs to send the hard liquors away to be redistilled the fish hung about the customary spilling places for weeks, frantic at the enforced abstinence. They refused to be satisfied with beer at first, but gradually they have adopted the beer standard. It is the fisherman with "hard bait" in a bottle that gets the biggest fish, always for he dips his fly into his hard bait in a bottle that gets the biggest fish, always for he dips his fly into his hard bait before he casts it. The fish smell the rare luxury and with the usual drunkard's recklessness, swallow and are less.

COMIC OPERA'S TROUBLE

SREAT DEMAND FOR ALTISTS WHO CAN ACT AND MING

Men and Women With Voices and Ton Mach Ambillion to Take to Comir Opera Oppor funtties Neglected in New York Singers

Who Watt Too Long for an Opening The stage manager, who was sitting back in the shadowy auditorium, immed from his chair and ran toward the stage. At a word from him the leader of the orchestra stopped the musicians and the young woman thus and

"What are you doing?" he asked "What am I doing!" she repeated with vetation "What do you suppose I am doing washing and troning? "Just out that out, please, Miss Smith," responded the stace manager with an apparent

effort to control his temper, "you know what I mean "Well, I am singing 'Just a Little Bit of Auducity," she replied, as she saw that the situe "What he called my attention to in this paper | ation demanded a solution, "and I am trying to

"Well, please don't sing it," was the decided suggestion from the nam in charge. "Just always thought since, was one of the oddest talk it. Then we may possibly be able to hear names I ever came across. This pleased the the words," he added, with the saroasin possible only to a tyranical stage manager.

The leader of the orchestra started his men man would shine all the more: and while it again and the young woman finished her song without attempting to do more than declaim a particular defi to the pie esters of some two it rhythmically to the accompaniment of the music. When she had finished, a voice from the dark auditorium called out "Very much better," and the performance went on. This commendation from the stage manager was formal rather than cordial. As he sat watching the well-trained choras go through its evolucontest, which was to be a sweepstakes, the lions, which were accurate enough to permit him to turn his thoughts to other matters he spoke to the man next to him.

"It's astonishing," he said, "to find the number of voiceless women on the stage to-day in parts that ready require singing to make them effective. Now the little woman that just finished her song has not voice enough under ordinary circumstances to be heard haif way back is the auditorium. When she tries to sing it is even less audible and as most of the merit in the songs she sings is dependent on a clear delivery of the words it is nearly impossible to do anything with her. But there are no others in her line of business who could do any better. They are all without voices. I could name five women who stand at the top of their profession in musical farce and operetta that have scarcely a tone to their name Some of them are able to speak so clearly and distinctly that in the song dependent on the words they can create the impression necessary But they are all equally without vocal ability and that is the hardest defect for them to overcome. I remember it used to be a source of great amusement several years ago to hear Letty Lind's efforts at vocalization. Almost all the women conspicuous to-day here in musical farce have just as little voice as she and it very frequently happens that women in the chorus are able to sing very much better. But it seems out of the question to find women who are able to combine with the other qualities necessary for this business an adequate sing-

ing voice." It was suggested that the number of women with good voices trying to get on the operatio stage to-day was large enough to supply recruits to comic opera.

"It is perfectly true that there is no lack of

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